Scooby-Doo! and the Reluctant Werewolf

Scooby-Doo and the Reluctant Werewolf is a 1988 animated comedy horror made-for-television film produced by Hanna-Barbera for syndication as part of the *Hanna-Barbera Superstars 10* series.[3] It marked Scrappy-Doo's last appearance as a protagonist in the *Scooby-Doo* franchise to date; he would not appear in a *Scooby-Doo* production again until the live-action *Scooby-Doo* film in 2002. It is also the last appearance of Shaggy's outfit from *The 13 Ghosts of Scooby-Doo* until *Scooby-Doo and the Cyber Chase*.

Plot

Every year, all of the classic Hollywood monsters, consisting of Frankenstein's monster, his wife Repulsa, a mummy, the witch sisters, Bone Jangles the Skeleton, Dr. Jackyll and Mr. Snyde, Swamp Thing, and Dragonfly (a dragon/fly monster) gather at Count Dracula's castle in Transylvania for the "Monster Road Rally", a road race whose winner is given the "Monster of the Year" award. The race's announcer is Dracula's wife and co-host, Vanna Pira. Dracula receives a postcard from the Wolfman stating that he has retired to Florida and thus will not be participating in any further races.

Dracula fears he will have to cancel the race until his wolf-like manservant Wolfgang notifies him of a way to create a new werewolf. The full moon will come into the perfect position to transform a human into a werewolf for three nights. The one in line to become the next werewolf is revealed to be none other than Shaggy Rogers, who coincidentally has won a recent car race, with the help of his pit crew, Scooby-Doo, and Scooby's young nephew Scrappy-Doo.

Dracula sends his henchmen, Brunch and Crunch, to turn Shaggy into a werewolf and bring him back to his castle for the race. The first two nights, the duo is unsuccessful due to Scooby noticing their plans and preventing Shaggy from being exposed to moonlight. On the final night, while Shaggy is at a drive-in movie along with his girlfriend Googie, the Hunch Bunch successfully transform Shaggy by dropping the sunroof of his car. Shaggy, trapped in his wolf form, is transported to Transylvania.

Revealing himself, Dracula explains to Shaggy why he was transformed, but Shaggy refuses to participate in Dracula's plans. After several failed attempts to extort Shaggy, Dracula offers him a bargain; if Shaggy agrees to drive in the race and wins, Dracula will change him back to human and allow him and his friends to leave. The deal is made, but Dracula has no intent on allowing Shaggy to succeed.

Dracula attempts to rig the racecourse by sending the Hunch Bunch to implement traps, but despite their efforts, Shaggy completes the course expertly. In response, Dracula alters the racecourse, sabotages Shaggy's car, and has the Hunch Bunch deprive Shaggy of sleep.

The next morning, Googie energizes Shaggy with a kiss and repairs his car. Throughout the race, Dracula and the monsters attempt to sabotage Shaggy and Scooby but fail due to interference from Googie and Scrappy. Dracula loses his patience and unleashes Genghis Kong, an ape-like monster, to stop Shaggy. As the other racers near the finish line, Googie and Scrappy return and rescue Shaggy and Scooby before making Genghis Kong fall onto the other monsters' cars, putting them out of the race.

Furious to see all of his schemes have failed, Dracula goes back on his deal, stating that there is no way to turn Shaggy back. After Vanna Pira reveals that the solution is in Dracula's spellbook, the gang grabs the book and make an escape. Dracula chases after them and summons a thunderstorm but is hit by lightning and falls into the ocean below. Shaggy and the gang escape when their car lands on an airplane.

Returning home, Googie uses the book to change Shaggy back to human. That night, the gang all sit down to watch another horror film while eating pizza, but unknown to them, Dracula and the Hunch Bunch sneak up to their window to announce that they have returned.

Voice cast

- Don Messick as Scooby-Doo and Scrappy-Doo
- Casey Kasem as Norville "Shaggy" Rogers
- B.J. Ward as Googie, Repulsa, and Woman on TV
- Hamilton Camp as Count Dracula, Police Officer, and Man in Drive-In
- Jim Cummings as Frankenstein, Dragonfly, Wolfgong, Snack Bar Manager, Genghis Kong, and Monster on TV
- Joan Gerber as Short Witch Sister and Woman at Store
- Ed Gilbert as Dr. Jackyll, Mr. Snyde, Spooky Voice, Doorknob, and the Narrator
- Brian Mitchell as Bone Jangles
- Pat Musick as Vanna Pira and Girl in Drive-In #1
- Alan Oppenheimer as Mummy and Swamp Thing
- Rob Paulsen as Brunch, Ghost, and Man in Car
- Mimi Seton as Tall Witch Sister, Girl in Drive-In #2, Boy in Drive-In, and Screamer
- Frank Welker as Crunch, Spider Monster, Plant Monster, Tyler Country Racer #1, Rooster, and Schlockness Monster

Home media

The film was originally released in 1991 on VHS by Goodtimes Home Video and got re-released by Turner Home Entertainment in 1992. It was released that same year on Laserdisc by Image Entertainment. Warner Home Video re-released the film on VHS and DVD in Region 1 on March 5, 2002.[1]

The film was released on Blu-ray on February 20, 2024, as an individual release, and as part of a *Hanna-Barbera Superstars 10* bosset through Warner Archive.[4]

Reception

On Rotten Tomatoes the film holds an approval rating of 20% based on 5 reviews, with an average rating of 5.0/10.[5]

References

1. "Amazon.com: Scooby-Doo and the Reluctant Werewolf: Hamilton Camp, Jim Cummings, Casey Kasem, Don Messick: Amazon Digital Services LLC" (https://www.amazon.com/dp/B007FNZ2WG). *www.amazon.com*.
2. "Statesman Journal from Salem, Oregon on November 13, 1988 · Page 108" (https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/200393543/). November 13, 1988.
3. Lenburg, Jeff (1999). *The Encyclopedia of Animated Cartoons* (https://archive.org/details/isbn_9780816038312/page/321/mode/2up). Checkmark Books. pp. 321–322. ISBN 0-8160-3831-7. Retrieved June 6, 2020.
4. "Hanna-Barbera's Superstars 10: The Complete Film Collection Blu-ray (Yogi's Great Escape / Scooby-Doo Meets the Boo Brothers / The Jetsons Meet the Flintstones / Yogi Bear and the Magical Flight of the Spruce Goose / Top Cat and the Beverly Hills Cats / The Good, the Bad, and Huckleberry Hound / Rockin' with Judy Jetson / Scooby-Doo and the Ghoul School / Scooby-Doo and the Reluctant Werewolf / Yogi and the Invasion of the Space Bears | Warner Archive Collection)" (https://www.blu-ray.com/movies/Hanna-Barberas-Superstars-10-The-Complete-Film-Collection-Blu-ray/353219/).
5. "*Scooby-Doo! and the Reluctant Werewolf*" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/scoobydoo_and_the_reluctant_werewolf). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Retrieved September 8, 2023.

External links

- *Scooby-Doo! and the Reluctant Werewolf* (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0189072/) at IMDb

Scooby-Doo! and the Reluctant Werewolf

2002 Promotional poster

Created by	William Hanna Joseph Barbera
Based on	Characters by Hanna-Barbera Productions
Written by	Jim Ryan
Directed by	Ray Patterson
Voices of	Don Messick Casey Kasem Hamilton Camp B.J. Ward Rob Paulsen Frank Welker Alan Oppenheimer Pat Musick Ed Gilbert Mimi Seton Jim Cummings Joan Gerber Brian Stokes Mitchell
Composer	Sven Libaek
Country of origin	United States
Original language	English
Production	
Executive producers	William Hanna Joseph Barbera
Producer	Berny Wolf
Editor	Mark Bernay
Running time	91 minutes[1]
Production company	Hanna-Barbera Productions
Original release	
Network	Syndicated
Release	November 13, 1988[2]
Related	

Scooby-Doo Meets the Boo Brothers

Scooby-Doo and the Ghoul School

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